

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 2-4, 8-10, 14-16, and 20-22 are cancelled. Claims 1, 5-7, 11-13, 17-19, and 23-25 remain in this application and, as amended herein, are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 have been amended to correct the informalities. It is therefore submitted that claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Turning now to the art rejection, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-7, 11-13, 17-19, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukushima (European Patent Application No. 0,979,003) in view of Cui (U.S. Patent No. 7,119,788). Applicants submit that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the relied on references.

For example, amended claim 1 calls for:

the control signal including a setting value associated with a particular image contrast such that if the setting value would require said illumination controlling means to lower the illumination brightness to be below the predetermined range, said illumination controlling means instead maintains the illumination brightness within the predetermined range to maintain the stable discharge current and said level adjustment means lowers the luminance signal level according to the setting value until the particular image contrast associated with the setting value is attained.
(Emphasis added.)

Neither the relied-on sections of Fukushima nor the relied-on sections of Cui disclose or suggest that if a setting value would require an illumination controlling means to lower illumination brightness to be below a predetermined range, the illumination controlling means instead maintains the

illumination brightness within the predetermined range to maintain the stable discharge current.

The Examiner acknowledges that "Fukushima does not disclose ... that if the setting value would require said illumination controlling means to lower the illumination brightness to be below the predetermined range, said illumination controlling means instead maintains the illumination brightness within the predetermined range ..." but contends that Cui discloses this feature and refers to Fig. 6 and column 6, lines 29-36 of the patent. However, the relied-on sections of Cui teach maintaining a display device power target to avoid exceeding a power consumption target. (See col.2 l.67 - col.3 l.67.) The relied-on sections of the reference do not disclose or suggest maintaining a display device power target to maintain a stable discharge current.

Moreover, because the relied-on sections of Cui are concerned with maintaining a display device power target by not exceeding a power consumption target, there is no reason why a person of ordinary skill in the relevant art would look to combine the relied-on sections of Cui with the relied-on sections of Fukushima to avoid being below a predetermined range.

For at least the above reasons, it follows that neither the relied-on sections of Fukushima nor the relied-on sections of Cui, whether taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the combination defined in claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is patentably distinct and unobvious over the cited references.

Independent claims 7, 13, and 19 each call for features similar to those set out in the above excerpt of claim 1. Therefore, each of claims 7, 13, and 19 is patentably

distinct and unobvious over the relied-on sections of Fukushima and Cui for at least the same reasons.

Claims 5-6 depend from claim 1, claims 11-12 depend from claim 7, claims 17-18 depend from claim 13, and claims 23-25 depend from claim 19. Therefore, each of claims 5-6, 11-12, 17-18, and 23-25 is distinguishable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as the claim from which it depends.


Applicants therefore respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103(a) and 112, second paragraph.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Russ
Registration No.: 35,342
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP
600 South Avenue West
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
(908) 654-5000
Attorney for Applicant